

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/610,478

Examiner

Pierre-Michel Bataille

Applicant(s)

QAWAMI ET AL.

Art Unit

2186

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 09-11-2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8,10,11,18-24 and 26-32.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Pierre-Michel Bataille
Primary Examiner
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DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-8, 10-11, and 18-24, and 26-32 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The present invention features controlling a sense array of memory to sense word group from a first address.

Closed related prior art:

US 2005/0135148 (Chevalier) teaches memory plug having a first terminal in electrical communication with the first conductive array line and a second terminal in electrical communication with one of the second conductive array lines, each memory plug configured to store an element of an information set; and a plurality of sensing circuits each configured in electrical communication with an associated one of the second conductive array lines and the memory plugs, so as to substantially simultaneously sense the elements of the information set.

US 2004/0019756 (Perego et al) teaches configuration logic loading first data from the first memory array into the first sense amplifier and substantially simultaneously loads second data from the second memory array into the second sense amplifier in the first memory-access mode.

US 6,212,121 (Ryu et al) teaches system that provides sub-arrays of different sizes and can reduce the number of the sub-arrays and the number of the sense amplifier regions such that maximum current for sensing during simultaneous accesses

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of multiple arrays can access two sub-arrays with different bit line loadings and avoid simultaneously accessing two sub-arrays having high bit-line loadings.

However, none of the prior art teaches or renders obvious the features of the claims, specifically:

controlling a sense array to sense a second word group from a second address of memory, wherein the second address is at a non-contiguous initial address with respect to a first address; and controlling the sense array to sense a third word group from a third address of the memory, wherein the third word group corresponds to the width of the first and second word groups combined.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pierre-Michel Bataille whose telephone number is (571) 272-4178. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (8:00A to 4:30P).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew M. Kim can be reached on (571) 272-4182. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Pierre-Michel Bataille
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2186

November 7, 2006


PIERRE BATAILLE
PRIMARY EXAMINER
11/07/06